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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PARM](#) [KN](#) [NO](#)  
SUBJECT: NORTH KOREAN DEMARCHE DELIVERED

REF: STATE 111144

Classified By: Acting Pol/Econ Counselor Doug Apostol, Reasons 1.4(b) and (d)

11. (C) On July 6 we delivered reftel points to Tore Dahlstrom, the North Korea Desk Officer at the MFA. Dahlstrom said Norway would align itself with the EU on this matter and endorse a forthcoming "non-controversial" EU statement. Stating that Norway fully supported the six-party framework, he also noted that a Norwegian State Secretary is planning a consultation trip to Pyongyang this fall. Quick to point out that Norway had absolutely no intention of getting directly involved in any mediation role (again reemphasizing Norway's staunch backing of the six-party framework), Dahlstrom did reveal that Norway could (and had) conveyed messages between parties "involved in the situation." He recounted that North Korea previously suggested that Norway become more directly involved as an active mediator, but the Norwegians responded that they had "no intention" of assuming that role, citing the "difficulty of the situation where all parties had hidden agendas."

12. (C) Dahlstrom spoke at length about his own experiences with North Korea (particularly given his prior position as Minister Counselor in Japan, and frequent travel to Pyongyang). Convinced that North Korea is "controlled by the military," he did speak highly of the North Korean Ambassador to Scandinavia (based in Stockholm). He noted his North Korean sources were perplexed about U.S. assertions concerning North Korea's alleged nuclear weapons, "despite never showing the Koreans any proof." Summing up the difficulty in diplomatic dealings with North Korea (particularly given the overt power of the military and extreme secrecy in all matters), he pointed out that Norwegian diplomats returning from Pyongyang often regretted that "they knew far less about North Korea after spending time in Pyongyang."

13. (U) Foreign Minister Stoere issued a press statement on July 5, voicing Norway's concerns over the North Korean missile tests. Calling the North Korean testing decision "highly regrettable," the statement labels the move a "worrying development" which "escalates tension in the region." Text of the statement's conclusion is found in paragraph 4.

14. (U) Begin statement. We continue to be deeply worried over North Korea's nuclear weapons program. North Korea must without delay discontinue this program and subject all of its nuclear activities to international control. It is therefore important that the talks aimed at finding a diplomatic solution to the issue of North Korea's nuclear weapons program are successful. End statement.

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